

REMARKS

Claim 1, for example, was rejected over the combination of West in view of Fedynyshyn. However, West never suggests forming the DNQ on a polymer backbone. The significance of the polymer backbone is that when the backbone with the DNQ is exposed to EUV lithography, outgassing is reduced.

The cited reference merely suggests derivatizing a material with DNQ. There is no suggestion that the DNQ is attached to a polymer backbone. Thus, the reference is non-informing as to the claimed invention.

Moreover, the combination of West with Fedynyshyn is improper. The fact that Fedynyshyn suggests that different exposure conditions may be utilized does not teach using a polymer backbone with DNQ attached in the case of EUV.

The suggestion that the interchangeability of the components is well known is incorrect. It is well known that many constituents that are suitable with other energies are not suitable for exposure with EUV. For example, EUV is known to create severe outgassing problems. Thus, no one skilled in the art would read Fedynyshyn and simply assume that anything that works with low energies would work with EUV. As pointed out in the article attached to the prior response, EUV introduces “several unique challenges.” See page 22, second column. All materials are strongly absorbing at 13.4 nanometers; therefore, EUVL systems require a vacuum operation. In addition, optics and photomasks must be reflective and coated with distributed quarter-wave Bragg reflectors.” *Id.* Further, it is pointed out that to prevent the buildup of carbon on reflective surfaces in the presence of EUV radiation, it is necessary to control partial pressures of hydrocarbon containing gases in the vacuum. See page 23, first full paragraph. Also, in the last paragraph in the right column on page 23, the problem of environmental control to prevent carbon deposition is discussed.

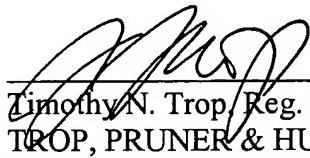
Certainly, one skilled in the art would never realize that DNQ, if utilized on a polymer backbone, would avoid these problems. Thus, one skilled in the art would be troubled with how to avoid the carbon deposition problem. As a result, one skilled in the art would either have to design an elaborate system or would try to use other materials.

There is no reason to believe that anyone skilled in the art appreciated that the use of the polymer backbone would avoid all of these problems.

Therefore, there is no suggestion in the art to do what is claimed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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